

ORDINANCE
OF
THE CITY COUNCIL OF ST. LOUIS,

In relation to the improvement of the harbor of St. Louis.

FEBRUARY 10, 1848.

Referred to the Committee on Commerce, and ordered to be printed.

No. 1954.—AN ORDINANCE providing for the continuance of the improvement of the harbor of St. Louis.

Be it ordained by the city council of the city of St. Louis as follows :

Section 1. That the mayor be, and is hereby, empowered and directed to issue the bonds of the city of St. Louis to the amount of seventy-five thousand dollars, being the balance of the sum authorized to be borrowed for the improvement of the harbor of St. Louis, by an act of the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, approved March twenty-six, eighteen hundred and forty-five: provided the United States government shall give assurance, by the first of March next, that it will apply the balance of the appropriation made by Congress for the improvement of the harbor of St. Louis in the manner set forth in the second section of this ordinance ; and provided, also, that the St. Clair Ferry Company shall enter into sufficient obligation, by the first of March next, that it will furnish the sum of fifteen thousand dollars for the improvement of said harbor, in the manner set forth in the third section of this ordinance.

Section 2. The mayor is hereby directed to forward, without delay, an authenticated copy of this ordinance to the proper department of the United States government, with a request on the part of this city to cause the balance of the appropriation made by Congress for the improvement of the harbor of St. Louis to be applied, as soon as practicable after the first of March next, towards the construction of a stone dam across the eastern channel of the Mississippi river, opposite St. Louis, at the head of Bloody island, at such location and in such direction as may be deemed best ; and with the assurance, on the part of the city, that the proceeds from the sale of the bonds authorized to be issued by the first section of this ordinance, together with the amount to be furnished by the St. Clair Ferry Company, shall be applied for the improvement of the harbor of St. Louis, in the manner set forth by the fourth and fifth sections of this ordinance.

Section 3. The mayor is hereby directed to communicate, without delay, an authenticated copy of this ordinance to the St. Clair Ferry Company, with the assurance on the part of the city, that if said company shall enter

into sufficient obligation, by the first of March next, for furnishing, whenever required, at any time thereafter, the sum of fifteen thousand dollars towards the improvement of the harbor of St. Louis, the same, together with the proceeds from the sale of the bonds authorized to be issued by the first section of this ordinance, shall be applied in the manner set forth in the fourth and fifth sections of this ordinance.

Section 4. The proceeds from the sale of the bonds authorized to be issued by the first section of this ordinance are hereby appropriated solely for the improvement of the harbor of St. Louis, and shall be applied as soon as may be practicable after the assurance on the part of the United States government for the application of the balance of the appropriation for the harbor of St. Louis, as mentioned in the second section of this ordinance, and the obligation of the St. Clair Ferry Company for the furnishing of fifteen thousand dollars towards the improvement of said harbor, as mentioned in the third section of this ordinance, are obtained, in manner following, that is to say: seven-fifteenths of said proceeds shall be applied for the continuation and completion of the stone dam at the head of Bloody island, to be commenced by the United States government, as mentioned in the second section of this ordinance; two fifteenths of said proceeds shall be applied for the revetting of the western shore of Bloody island; and six fifteenths of said proceeds, together with the amount to be furnished by the St. Clair Ferry Company, shall be applied for the construction of a stone dam across the eastern channel of the Mississippi river, opposite St. Louis, so as to connect the eastern end of the cross dike, lately built by the city of St. Louis at the foot of Bloody island, with the Illinois shore.

Section 5. The three works for the improvement of the harbor, mentioned in the foregoing section, shall be commenced and carried on simultaneously.

Section 6. The bonds authorized to be issued by the first section of this ordinance shall be each for the sum of one thousand dollars; shall be signed by the mayor and countersigned by the treasurer and comptroller, and shall be dated on the day of the sale thereof, respectively; and shall have printed on their back, copies of the act of the General Assembly and of this ordinance, authorizing their issue, and shall be made redeemable as follows, to wit: Five in the year eighteen hundred and fifty-two, six in the year eighteen hundred and fifty-three, seven in the year eighteen hundred and fifty-four, eight in the year eighteen hundred and fifty-five, nine in the year eighteen hundred and fifty-six, ten in the year eighteen hundred and fifty-seven, ten in the year eighteen hundred and fifty-eight, ten in the year eighteen hundred and fifty-nine, and ten in the year eighteen hundred and sixty. The said bonds shall be made payable, principal and interest, either in this city or in the city of New York, at the option of the purchaser, which shall be designated at the time of purchase; and they shall bear interest at the rate of six per centum per annum, payable semi-annually, for which coupons, signed by the treasurer, shall be attached.

Section 7. The sale of said bonds shall be effected by the mayor, the president of the board of aldermen, and the chairman of the board of delegates, or any two of them conjointly, at such periods as may, by virtue of this ordinance, be obligatory on the city of St. Louis; and in such manner, and upon such terms, as may be most advantageous for the carrying out of the object of this ordinance.

Section 8. It shall be the duty of the treasurer to keep the proceeds of all taxations caused to be made under the authority of the act of the General Assembly, referred to in the first section of this ordinance, and entitled "An act for the improvement of the harbor of St. Louis," approved March twenty-six, eighteen hundred and forty-five, in the treasury, exclusively for the payment of the principal and interest of the bonds authorized to be issued by this ordinance, and those issued heretofore, to the amount of twenty-five thousand dollars, under authority of ordinance numbered seventeen hundred and sixty eight, approved November eighteenth, one thousand eight hundred and forty-six, until their full and entire payment and redemption.

Section 9. The obligation of the St. Clair Ferry Company, to be obtained as mentioned in the second section of this ordinance, shall be approved and accepted by the mayor, the president of the board of aldermen, and the chairman of the board of delegates, or any two of them conjointly.

I do hereby certify the foregoing to be a correct copy of the original ordinance now on file in the register's office, of the city of St. Louis, and being ordinance numbered nineteen hundred and fifty-four.

Attest:

JAS. LEMON,

City Register.

JOINT RESOLUTIONS directing the Harbor Committee to wait on the Hon. Thomas H. Benton, on business connected with the harbor.

Resolved by the city council of the city of St. Louis, That this council has observed with unqualified satisfaction the able manner in which, in his letter to Messrs. Crow, Walsh, Yeatman, and others, the Hon. Thomas H. Benton has so forcibly exhibited the position and advocated the great commercial importance of this city, and this council fully concurs in the memorable declaration therein made, that "St. Louis is a seaport as well as an inland city," and that, "with the attributes and characteristics of a seaport, she is entitled to the benefit of one, as fully and as clearly as New York or New Orleans."

Resolved further, That in deliberately planning and partially executing the works for the improvement of the channel of the Mississippi river, in front of this city, and the preservation of its harbor, the federal government has given an assurance, not only of the necessity of the work and its right to execute it, but also a pledge, that if power and means can accomplish the object thus begun, it will be effected, and consequently insure to this city, invested with the attributes and characteristics of a seaport, all the benefits to which, as such, she is legitimately entitled.

Resolved further, That a joint committee, to consist of the members of the committee on the harbor, of each board, and the president of the board of aldermen, and chairman of the board of delegates, be appointed to wait on Senator Benton, with a view of communicating such facts, connected with the improvement of the harbor of this city, as may be considered desirable, and to express to him the gratification which this council, on behalf of the people of this city, experience in the assurance that the

powerful weight of his influence and talents will, at the proper time, be given towards effecting, by the United States, the completion of the works required for the preservation and improvement of the harbor of this city,

Ordered, That the city engineer cause copies to be made of such papers and documents in his office, in relation to the improvement of the harbor, as said joint committee may desire to have published.

I certify that the foregoing is a correct copy of the resolutions passed by the city council of the city of St. Louis, on the twenty-third day of July, one thousand eight hundred and forty-seven.

As witness the seal of the city of St. Louis, this nineteenth day of January, eighteen hundred and forty-eight.

JAS. LEMON,
City Register.

Extract from a report of Lieutenant Colonel S. H. Long, on the improvement of the harbor of St. Louis, dated December 1, 1846.

“My late interviews with the city authorities, in reference to the improvement of their harbor, have resulted in a mutual understanding of the following import:

“1. That measures be taken for repairing the breaches in the wing dam, and extending said dam upwards, and across the present channel, to the western shore of Bloody island, in the direction of the existing dam, and in connexion with the jetties situated above the dam; the object of this work being to block up the present channel at the head of the dam, or between it and Bloody island, and to compel the water tending in that direction to pass across the bar at and above Duncan’s island; whereby this bar is expected to be washed away, and a channel to be formed through it, by which boats may have a free passage to and from the lower or southerly landings of the city. This part of the work to be done at the expense of the city corporation, and under the direction of the city authorities.

“2. An appropriation of \$25,000 has been made by the city authorities for the purpose contemplated in the preceding paragraph. Moreover, a contract has been made for stone to be delivered and deposited in the line of the work, at the moderate price of 90 cents per perch of 25 cubic feet.

“3. That any revetments or other works required to secure Bloody island against abrasions on the west side, near the head of the island, be planned and executed under the direction and at the expense of the United States, and by means of any future appropriation hereafter to be made for the purpose.

“4. That the main object and great desideratum to be attained by means of appropriations on the part of the general government, is the diversion of a portion of the water from the east to the west side of Bloody island, or from the Illinois to the Missouri channel.

“5. That the object or diversion just mentioned is to be effected in the manner proposed by the topographical bureau, viz: either by dam or

dike extending from the head of Bloody island obliquely upwards, and across the Illinois channel, to a point at or near the town of Brooklyn; or by dredging a channel of requisite width and depth, leading obliquely downwards from a point in the Illinois channel opposite to the foot of Kerr's island, to the harbor of St. Louis; or by both of these methods of improvement combined.

"6. That the unexpended balance of the last appropriation of Congress, still remaining applicable to the improvement of the harbor, is about \$22,700, and that the city corporation wish this balance to be expended as early as practicable, under the direction of the general government, in a manner conducive to the attainment of the object contemplated in the two preceding paragraphs.

"7. That the work to be done by the corporation be commenced immediately, and prosecuted in conformity to the plans and contracts already prepared for that purpose, and that the work to be done by the United States be commenced as early as practicable in the ensuing spring, and prosecuted with diligence, to the extent justifiable by the means applicable thereto."

Statement of expenditures made for the improvement of the harbor of St. Louis.

[47]

By the United States.				By the city of St. Louis.				
Year.	For construction of dike at head of Bloody island.	For construction of dike at foot of Bloody island.	Aggregate.	Year.	For construction of dike at head of Bloody island.	For construction of dike at foot of Bloody island.	Aggregate.	Total aggregate.
1837 } 1838 } 1839 }	\$15,000 00	\$35,000 00	\$50,000 00	1839 } 1840 }	\$17,151 71	\$4,500 00	\$21,651 71	
1841 } 1842 } 1843 } 1844 }								
1843 } 1844 }				1841 923 63 1842 3,177 69 1843 571 00 1844 84 50 1845 12 50 1846 } 1847 }				
	16,150 00	36,150 00	52,300 00		21,921 03	34,165 54	56,086 57	\$108,386 00

The above statement is, to the best of my knowledge, correct. All the expenditures included therein on the part of the city, were made with the view and for the purpose of securing or continuing the works commenced by the United States.

HENRY KAYSER,
City Engineer.

CITY ENGINEER'S OFFICE,
St. Louis, January 15, 1848.

